

## Office of the City Manager

5200 Emerald Parkway • Dublin, OH 43017-1090



To: Members of Dublin City Council

From: Marsha I. Grigsby, City Manager

Date: November 13, 2014

**Initiated By:** Dana L. McDaniel, Director of Development

Re: Resolution 90-14 - Waiving Competitive Bidding for the Construction of

**Certain Fiber Optic Routes** 

# **Background**

As City Council knows, the City possesses a 125 mile conduit and fiber optic system throughout Central Ohio known as Dublink. Approximately 25 miles of Dublink is located within Dublin's commercial district (Attachment A). City Council budgeted in its 5 Year CIP (2014-2018) the concept of a 100 gigabit fiber optic backbone. Critical to the development of this backbone is the need to overbuild/add additional optical fiber. Ninety six additional optical fiber will be added along a portion of the existing Dublink route (Attachement B) and within the City's conduit, already populated with the City's optical fiber. Additional optical fiber is needed to provide enough fiber count to help provide adequate distribution capacity.

The 100 gigabit project, at this point, will accomplish the following:

- Provide greater fiber at the curb and fiber to the building capacity in the City's legacy office parks.
- Provide additional high capacity bandwidth.
- Provide a research backbone that will better enable Dublin companies to access the Ohio Academic Resource Network (OARnet) and the Ohio Supercomputer. We are beginning to see research and development and design suite businesses being attracted to this for modeling/ simulation and prototyping. Companies can also enable companies to access colleges, universities, research institutes and the National Science Foundation Geni Rack.
- Enable companies to access a local and regional data center/cloud computing center. Access to this center will enable access to competitive internet service providers and off site data storage.
- The 100 qigabit deployment can also help to make our legacy office parks/buildings more competitive by providing a unique broadband infrastructure with unique offerings.

Should Council approve this Resolution, the City will have achieved two key phases of the 100 gigabit project:

- "Lighting equipment": Council recently passed Resolution 85-14 that will result in OARnet providing \$360,000 in router equipment to "light" the 100 gigabit backbone and provide router support into buildings as an enabler and incentive.
- Fiber optics: per this Memo, overbuilding the fiber optic capacity in certain legacy office parks.

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The next phases of this project will be to:

- Solidify service offerings and management of the backbone with collaborators and partners.
- Solidify the concept of the 100 gigabit project as an incentive offering concept.
- Extend fiber and routers to buildings via laterals.

Council may also recall that the State of Ohio committed to \$300,000 in the State Capital Budget to assist with the 100 gigabit deployment. After more research and understanding of the State requirements, staff foresees these dollars being leveraged in the following manner:

- Extend the City's optical fiber backbone to certain City, Township and Schools' facilities; thereby, extending the backbone into certain residential and unserved commercial areas of the City.
- Co-locate Dublin City Schools' servers into Metro Data Center so they are adjacent to the City's, Washington Township, OARnet, NSF Geni Rack servers, which are already present.
- Enable the Dublin City Schools to access OARnet within the data center establishing the 100 gigabit project as both a "research and education" backbone.

Resolution No. 90-14 proposes to waive competitive bidding in the best interest of the City for the following reasons:

- 1. The placement of fiber optics and construction and splicing of new fiber optics is particularly sensitive due to the Dublink system being "live" with multiple users.
- 2. This is further complicated in that the new fiber optics will be placed within the same conduit as the City's existing fiber optics.
- 3. Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company has been responsible for the design, construction, maintenance and management of the Dublink system since its inception.
- 4. Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company has the ongoing responsibility to ensure the operational integrity and accountability of the system's optical fibers.
- 5. Staff is confident that Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company possesses the knowledge and capacity to respond to any disruptions in service that may occur during the execution of the project.
- 6. Columbus Fibernet/Fishel Company would retain the responsibility of the integrity of the system before, during and after the placement and splicing of the new optical fibers. This would allow for a seamless "ownership" of the system's integrity.
- 7. Staff is confident that the estimates provided for these projects are competitive base on other similar projects such as the Time Warner Telecommunications Hub project.

### Recommendation

Staff recommends Council approve Resolution No.90-14. Contact Dana McDaniel with any questions.

# **RECORD OF RESOLUTIONS**

A RESOLUTION WAIVING COMPETITIVE BIDDING REQUIREMENTS, PURSUANT TO SECTION 8.04 ("CONTRACTING PROCEDURES"), PARAGRAPH (C)("WAIVER OF COMPETITIVE BIDDING") FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN FIBER OPTIC ROUTES AND AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO ENTER INTO A CONTRACT WITH COLUMBUS FIBERNET

**WHEREAS**, the City of Dublin possesses over 125 miles of conduit and fiber optics, together referred to as Dublink; and

**WHEREAS**, the City budgeted in its 2014-2018 Capital Improvements Budget a 100 gigagbit fiber optic project; and

**WHEREAS**, this project will require additional fiber optic capacity to be placed in the City's existing conduit in a certain portion of its Dublink system; and

**WHEREAS,** it will be challenging as new optical fiber will be placed within the same conduit as existing fiber optic that is actively being used by various Dublink occupants; and

**WHEREAS**, it is critical to maintain the operational integrity of the Dublink system during this placement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Fishel Company and its subsidiary, Columbus Fibernet, have been responsible for the design, construction, management and maintenance of the Dublink system, since its inception; and

**WHEREAS,** Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to waive competitive bidding for this project; and

**WHEREAS,** Council has determined that the quote submitted by Columbus Fibernet in the amount not to exceed \$150,000 is fair and appropriate.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the City of Dublin, State of Ohio, \_\_\_\_\_\_ of the elected members concurring that:

<u>Section 1</u>. Competitive bidding requirements are hereby waived for the placement of additional fiber optics in existing City of Dublin-Dublink conduit for a portion of the Dublink system.

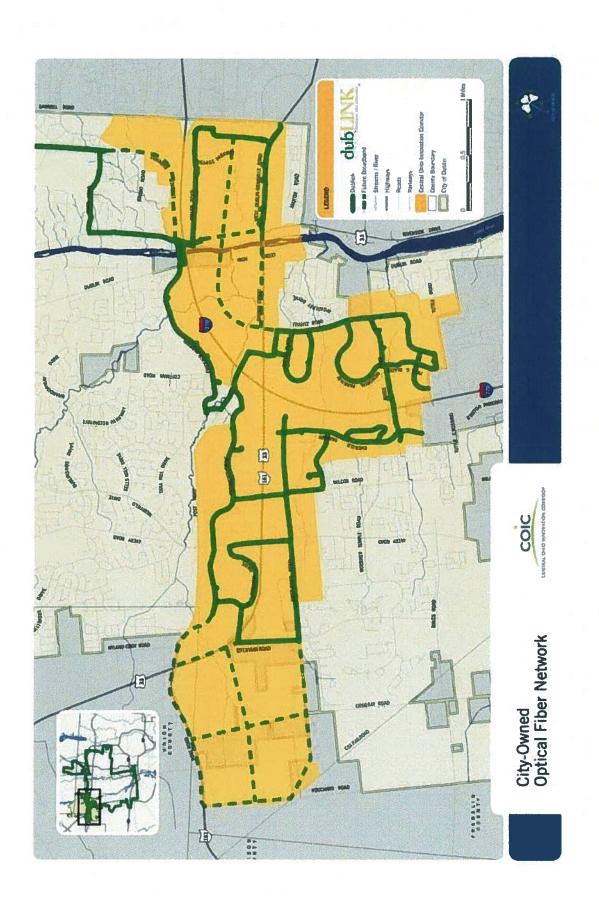
<u>Section 2</u>. The City Manager is hereby authorized to enter into an agreement with Columbus Fibernet for the replacement and construction of certain fiber optic routes in an amount not to exceed \$150,000.

<u>Section 3</u>. This Resolution shall take effect upon passage in accordance with Section 4.04(a) of the Revised Charter.

Passed this	day of	, 2014.
Mayor – Presidir	ng Officer	
ATTEST:		

Clerk of Council

# **ATTACHMENT A**



Metro Data Center Shan roct Gr ନ୍ତି 115

ATTACHMENT B
Red line = route for additional optical fiber placement